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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/670,062	09/26/2000	Bradley J. Weßman	20000389.ORI	5103

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EXAMINER

OROPEZA, FRANCES P

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

3762

DATE MAILED: 01/21/2004

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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Advisory Action	Application No. 09/670,062	Applicant(s) WESSMAN, BRADLEY J.	
	Examiner Frances P. Oropeza	Art Unit 3762	

--The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

THE REPLY FILED 05 January 2004 FAILS TO PLACE THIS APPLICATION IN CONDITION FOR ALLOWANCE. Therefore, further action by the applicant is required to avoid abandonment of this application. A proper reply to a final rejection under 37 CFR 1.113 may only be either: (1) a timely filed amendment which places the application in condition for allowance; (2) a timely filed Notice of Appeal (with appeal fee); or (3) a timely filed Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in compliance with 37 CFR 1.114.

PERIOD FOR REPLY [check either a) or b)]

- a) The period for reply expires 3 months from the mailing date of the final rejection.
- b) The period for reply expires on: (1) the mailing date of this Advisory Action, or (2) the date set forth in the final rejection, whichever is later. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of the final rejection. ONLY CHECK THIS BOX WHEN THE FIRST REPLY WAS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE FINAL REJECTION. See MPEP 706.07(f).

Extensions of time may be obtained under 37 CFR 1.136(a). The date on which the petition under 37 CFR 1.136(a) and the appropriate extension fee have been filed is the date for purposes of determining the period of extension and the corresponding amount of the fee. The appropriate extension fee under 37 CFR 1.17(a) is calculated from: (1) the expiration date of the shortened statutory period for reply originally set in the final Office action; or (2) as set forth in (b) above, if checked. Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of the final rejection, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

- 1. A Notice of Appeal was filed on _____. Appellant's Brief must be filed within the period set forth in 37 CFR 1.192(a), or any extension thereof (37 CFR 1.191(d)), to avoid dismissal of the appeal.
- 2. The proposed amendment(s) will not be entered because:
 - (a) they raise new issues that would require further consideration and/or search (see NOTE below);
 - (b) they raise the issue of new matter (see Note below);
 - (c) they are not deemed to place the application in better form for appeal by materially reducing or simplifying the issues for appeal; and/or
 - (d) they present additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims.

NOTE: See Continuation Sheet.

- 3. Applicant's reply has overcome the following rejection(s): _____.
- 4. Newly proposed or amended claim(s) _____ would be allowable if submitted in a separate, timely filed amendment canceling the non-allowable claim(s).
- 5. The a) affidavit, b) exhibit, or c) request for reconsideration has been considered but does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because: _____.
- 6. The affidavit or exhibit will NOT be considered because it is not directed SOLELY to issues which were newly raised by the Examiner in the final rejection.
- 7. For purposes of Appeal, the proposed amendment(s) a) will not be entered or b) will be entered and an explanation of how the new or amended claims would be rejected is provided below or appended.

The status of the claim(s) is (or will be) as follows:

Claim(s) allowed: _____.

Claim(s) objected to: _____.

Claim(s) rejected: 1-17 and 30-32.

Claim(s) withdrawn from consideration: 18-29.

- 8. The drawing correction filed on _____ is a) approved or b) disapproved by the Examiner.
- 9. Note the attached Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). _____.
- 10. Other: _____

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 SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
 TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3700

Frances P. Oropeza
 Art Unit 3762 1/12/04

Continuation of 2. NOTE:

The Applicant amended independent claim 9 to define the welding region as "formed by the removal of at least a portion of the insulator, the welding region formed to expose at least a portion of the at least one conductor" and to define the location of the band as "the band welded to the distal end outside the welding region". The Applicant amended dependent claims 4, 13 and 32 to remove "welding" as a means of electrically connecting the conductive pad to the conductor. These amendments introduce new issues and required further consideration and potentially a new search.

Relative to claims 1 and 30, the Applicant argues Winkler does not disclose "one welding region formed by removal of at least a portion of the insulator". The Examiner disagrees. Winkler teaches a welding region created by removing a portion/ groove of the insulator to create a window (figure 4A - 47) that exposes an area of the conductor (col. 6 @ 33-38).

Relative to claims 1 and 30, the Applicant appears to argue Winkler does not disclose "the band welded to the conductive pad at the welding region" because there is a gap between the pad (51) and the electrode (53) as shown in figure 7. The Examiner disagrees. Winkler teaches the electrode (53) is uniformly crimped and welded to the pad (51) (col. 7 @ 23 - col 8 @ 16). The weld connecting the pad (51) and electrode (53) is located in the welding region, the welding region read to be the area where the insulating material is removed to expose at least a portion of the at least one conductor. While the weld between the pad and the electrode in the welding region is not a continuous weld, as indicated by the gap between pad (51) and electrode (53) in figure 7, a weld is formed between the pad (51) and the electrode (53) in the outer areas of the welding region at the beginning and at the end of the gap between the pad (51) and the electrode (53) (figure 7), hence Winkler teaches "the band is welded to the conductive pad at the welding region".

The rejection of record stands.

JPO
1/12/04